

INTERVENTION

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

WILLIAM A. MUNDELL

CHAIRMAN

MIKE GLEASON

COMMISSIONER

JEFF HATCH-MILLER

COMMISSIONER

JIM IRVIN

COMMISSIONER

MARC SPITZER

COMMISSIONER

IN THE MATTER OF THE INVESTIGATION INTO QUEST CORPORATION'S COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN WHOLESALE PRICING REQUIREMENTS FOR UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS AND RESALE DISCOUNTS 2003 JAN 10 A 10:27

AZ CORP COMMISSIO

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Docket No.T-00000A-00-0194 Phase III

APPLICATION TO INTERVENE

Mountain Telecommunications, Inc. ("MTI"), by its attorneys, pursuant to A.R.C. R-14-3-105, herby applies to intervene in the above-captioned matter. In support of this application, MTI states as follows:

MTI is a telecommunications carrier certificated by the Commission to provide services, including competitive local exchange services, in the State of Arizona. MTI in incorporated under the laws of the State of Arizona, and its corporate headquarters are located at 1430 W. Broadway, Suite A-200, Tempe, Arizona 85282.

As a provider of telecommunications services, MTI utilizes network elements of Qwest Communications, the predominant incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) in Arizona which it acquires on an unbundled basis pursuant to Section 251(c) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (47 U.S.C. § 251(c)(3)) and subject to an interconnection agreement approved by the

Commission. MTI is especially reliant on the transport facilities of Qwest as well as Qwest's Local Interconnection Service. Qwest's transport rates and Local Interconnection Service rates are set forth in interconnection agreements and the Statement of Generally Available Terms approved by the Commission. MTI uses Qwest transport to connect its customers' premises with serving wire centers and to move telecommunications traffic between central offices within Qwest territory.

In Decision No. 64922 in Phase II of this proceeding,¹ the Commission ordered Qwest to develop transport rates based on the HAI model notwithstanding the fact that the resulting rates would be based on average costs rather than cost differences associated with distance. However, the Commission made clear that the averaged transport rates resulting from the HAI model would be interim rates and that the issue of transport costs would be further examined in Phase III of this proceeding.

As a company which utilizes Qwest transport throughout Arizona, MTI will be profoundly affected by the rates developed in Phase III. The significant adverse impact of the interim averaged HAI-based transport rates on MTI became shockingly clear in January when it received its first invoices from Qwest based on its implementation of the Commission's Decision 64922. The transport rates implemented by Qwest in purported compliance with the interim transport rate development requirements of Decision 64922 have substantially increased MTI's transport costs. For example, pursuant to the rates implemented by Qwest in purported compliance with Decision No. 64922, the monthly charges to MTI for a six mile DS3 circuit

¹ In the Matter Of The Investigation Into Qwest Corporation's Compliance With Certain Wholesale Pricing Requirements For Unbundled Network Elements And Resale Discounts, Docket No. T-00000A-00-0194, issued June 12, 2002.

² Simultaneously with the filing of this application to intervene, MTI has applied to intervene in Docket No. T-0205B-02-0871 (<u>Arizona Corporation Commission v. Qwest Corporation</u> Complaint and Order to Show Cause).

have increased from \$353.05 to \$1,834.61. The monthly charges for a four mile DS1 circuit have increased from \$47.14 to \$153.59. MTI estimates that these changes will increase its costs for transport and for local interconnection service by \$54,866.60 per month.

Based upon the foregoing, MTI is a party which will be significantly affected by the unbundled network element rates for transport to be addressed in Phase III of this proceeding. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that MTI's application to intervene be granted, and that it be accorded full party status in this proceeding with the right to participate fully, including, but not limited to, engaging in discovery, presenting testimony, cross examining witnesses, and submitting such briefs and other legal memoranda as appropriate and in accordance with the Commission's rules and orders issued in the proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

MOUNTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Robert S. Kant

E. Jeffrey Walsh

GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP 2375 E. Camelback Road Suite 700 Phoenix, Arizona 85016 (602) 445-8000

Its Attorneys

Of Counsel:

Mitchell F. Brecher GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP 800 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20006 (202) 331-3100

January 8, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing documents on all parties of record in this proceeding by mailing a copy thereof, properly addressed with first class postage prepaid to the following:

Timothy Berg FENNEMORE CRAIG 3003 North Central Avenue Suite 2600 Phoenix, AZ 85012

QWEST Corporation 1801 California Street Suite 5100 Denver, CO 80202

Richard S. Wolters Michel Singer Nelson AT&T 1875 Lawrence Street Room 1575 Denver, CO 80202-1847

Michael W. Patten
ROSHKA, HEYMAN & DEWULF
One Arizona Center
400 East Van Buren Street
Suite 800
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Attorneys for Cox Arizona Telecom, Inc.,
e-spireTM Communications, and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc.

Michael Grant
GALLAGHER & KENNEDY
2575 East Camelback Road
Phoenix, AZ 85016-9225
Attorneys for Electric Lightwave, Inc., COVAD
Communications, Inc. and New Edge Networks

Thomas H. Campbell
LEWIS & ROCA
40 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Attorneys for Rhythms Links, Inc. and
Time Warner Telecom of Arizona, LLC

Thomas F. Dixon, Jr. MCI WorldCom 707 17th Street Denver, CO 80202

Darren S. Weingard Stephen H. Kukta SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS CO. 1850 Gateway Drive 7th Floor San Mateo, CA 94404-2467

Scott S. Wakefield RUCO 2828 North Central Avenue Suite 1200 Phoenix, AZ 85004

Raymond S. Heyman Randall H. Warner ROSHKA, HEYMAN & DeWULF 400 East Van Buren Street Suite 800 Phoenix, AZ 85004

Jeffrey W. Crockett Jeffrey B. Guldner SNELL & WILMER One Arizona Center Phoenix, AZ 85004-2202

Mary E. Steele
DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP
2600 Century Square
1501 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101-1688
Attorneys for AT&T Communications of the Mountain States, Inc.

Marti Allbright MPOWER COMMUNICATIONS 5711 South Benton Circle Littleton, CO 80123 Kevin Chapman Director-Regulatory Relations 5800 Northwest Parkway Suite 125, Room I-S-20 San Antonio, TX 78249

Joyce B. Hundley United States Department of Justice Antitrust Division City Center Building 1401 H Street, NW Suite 8000 Washington, D.C. 20530

Lyndon J. Godfrey AT&T 111 West Monroe Suite 1201 Phoenix, AZ 85003

Christopher Kempley, Chief Counsel LEGAL DIVISION 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007

Ernest G. Johnson, Director UTILITIES DIVISION 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dated at Washington, D.C., this 8th day of January, 2003.

Michelle D. Diedrick